

Policy Goal 7 Dedicate Budget Resources to Strengthen the Competitive Position of Small Farms in American Agriculture

Attention needs to be given to the fact that the small farmer, the crops that he grows are just as important to him as the cotton is to the large farmer.

- Melvin Crum, South Carolina.

Recommendation 7.1

Recommendation 7.2

Recommendation 7.3

Recommendation 7.4

USDA has several programs that work very effectively to the benefit of small farms. However, the potential for these programs to serve a greater number of small farms is stymied by funding constraints. Budget cuts over the last several years, particularly to FSA's direct lending programs, have restricted credit availability to minority and limited-resource farms. USDA, through the President's annual budget request, and Congress, through its annual appropriations process, can demonstrate their commitment to small farm vitality by reallocating and/or increasing funds to existing programs that best meet the needs of small farmers.

Increase appropriations for the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program by \$10 million each year over 3 years to reach its authorized funding level of \$40 million. The SARE Chapter 3, Professional Development Training Program, should be funded at \$10 million. The funding increase should be specifically tailored to small farm research and education needs, on-farm research and farmer-to-farmer networking as means of technology transfer. Particular attention should be given to traditionally underserved farmers. Currently funded at \$8 million, SARE can only fund 17 percent of the projects proposed. The SARE Producer Grants, awarded to farmers to design and conduct their own on-farm research and extend their results to other farmers, are especially popular and have proven effective at creating low-cost production and marketing innovations.

Increase the Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas (ATTRA) program appropriations to \$3 million. With its toll-free number, ATTRA staff respond to production and marketing questions from across the Nation, mostly from small farms. ATTRA serves as a "crop consultant" that larger farmers can afford to hire. While ATTRA has operated at \$1.3 million over the last 6 years, requests for assistance have more than tripled.

Increase the Outreach and Technical Assistance Program for Socially Disadvantaged/Minority Farmers (Sec. 2501 program) to the current authorized level of \$10 million annually through the year 2002 to conduct effective outreach and farm management assistance. The Secretary should request an increase in the authorization for appropriations to \$15 million in 2002 and \$20 million by 2004.

The President's Budget should request that Congress appropriate the maximum authorized levels of \$85 million per year in Farm Ownership Direct Loans and \$500 million per year in Farm Operating Direct Loans.

Recommendation 7.5

Increase CSREES Smith-Lever Formula Funding (3c) for the Small and Part-Time Farmer program from \$2.25 million to \$10 million by 2000. The Department should hold each State accountable for its portion and document how funds were spent for purposes of small farms. Funding should increase to \$15 million by 2004 and keep pace with inflation.

Recommendation 7.6

The Rural Technology and Cooperative Development Center Grant Program should be increased by \$10 million annually up to \$20 million. The authorization is set at \$50 million, but funding has never exceeded \$1.7 million. The program is administered as a competitive grant for non-profit educational institutions and community-based organizations for cooperative development, training, and operations on behalf of low- and moderate-income people in rural communities. This program is one of the few that supports rural cooperative development at the grassroots level.

Recommendation 7.7

The Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP) funding should be increased from its current level of \$1.2 million to \$3 million annually. FSMIP has been an effective source of funding for feasibility studies, market research, product development, and marketing innovations in partnership with State-level organizations, such as State departments of agriculture and community-based organizations. Funding increases should be targeted to niche market development appropriate for small farms.

Recommendation 7.8

Funding for the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration is critical to investigation of concentration in livestock markets. The President's Budget should repeat its request for \$3 million for the agency reorganization and \$1.65 million and 20 additional staff for increased economic, statistical, and legal expertise to pursue investigations of packer competition and structure of the livestock industry. In addition, \$750,000 and 10 additional staff should be requested and appropriated for investigation into unfair market practices in the poultry industry. The agency must have additional economic and legal expertise if it is more aggressively to pursue anti-competitive practices related to industry concentration.

Recommendation 7.9

The Fund for Rural America should be made a permanent program with funding at \$100 million annually. The Secretary's discretionary funding should be directed to the following priorities:

- The Cooperative Value-Added Program should be continued, with priority given to project proposals involving the development of small farm cooperatives.
- Outreach and Technical Assistance Program for Socially Disadvantaged/ Minority Farmers (Sec. 2501 program), in FY 1999 to bring the funding level up to \$10 million if it does not receive full funding through appropriations.
- Research and extension to support beginning farmers, including the development of low-cost livestock systems, small farm marketing cooperatives, and support for State and regional networks or centers to support beginning farmers.

Policy Goals and Recommendations Policy Goal 7



In addition, the Rural Development portion of the Fund should include at least \$10 million for the Rural Business Enterprise Grant program for the purposes of funding feasibility studies and development of innovative marketing strategies for small farms. In addition, \$3 million for RBEG could be programmed to fund technical assistance programs for nonprofit and State organizations to link retiring farmers with beginning farmers for cost-effective transitions of farms from older to younger generations.

Recommendation 7.10

USDA has released the proposed National Organic Standards, with full implementation expected to occur sometime in 1998. Organic farming has given innovative small farmers an opportunity to enjoy price premiums in one of the fastest growing segments of the food industry. Effective certification and enforcement of the national standards will be critical to maintaining the integrity of organic products, consumer confidence in the organic label, and fair market access to what will continue to be an expanding market with the entrance of large food processing firms. Funding should be provided at \$2 million per year for the National Organic Program to support the implementation and on going administration of the national standards.

Recommendation 7.11

The WIC/Farmers Market Nutrition Program funding should be increased to \$25 million annually in future budget requests and appropriations. This program allows WIC recipients to redeem their WIC coupons for fresh produce at farmers markets. Now operating in 30 States, Washington, DC, and two Tribal nations, this program provided \$9 million in revenue to 8,250 farmers in 1996. With the increased funding, the program will be expanded to more States and farmers will gain more WIC customers at farmers markets.

Recommendation 7.12

Funding for the Farmworker Housing Program should be increased to \$50 million. Rural Housing Service farmworker housing funds should be directed to community-based farmworker organizations that have a community development corporation component. Program rules and regulations should be altered to allow more innovation and flexibility, and to leverage other potential sources of support in constructing farmworker housing units.

Recommendation 7.13

The Commission recommends that the Forestry Incentive Program be revitalized and funded at the previous higher levels. Funding should be increased to \$6.62 million.

Recommendation 7.14

Funding of the Forest Stewardship Program should be increased to \$27.5 million. The increased funding should be targeted to assisting small farm operators and small woodlot owners.

Recommendation 7.15

Funding for the Stewardship Incentive Program should be increased to \$10 million annually. This program provides cost-sharing for nine different forestry practices, including riparian and wetland protection, fisheries habitat enhancement, and forest recreation enhancement.

Recommendation 7.16

The Renewable Resources Extension Act should be funded at a level of \$6 million annually. Education is an important aspect of all forestry and farm management, and the continued erosion of the Extension budget has had serious negative outcomes at the State and local levels.



Policy Goal 8 Provide Just and Humane Working Conditions for All People Engaged in Production Agriculture

Because the large corporations pay lower wages, it's hard for the small farmers who pay better and invest more in their workers—It's hard for them to compete with the corporations who can produce for lower costs.

- Tirso Moreno, Florida

The Commission heard testimony from representatives of farmworker organizations who articulated interests that were common among farmworkers and small farmers. In particular, large farm operators and agribusinesses have unfair advantages because "employer costs have been reduced by the partial or total exclusion of agricultural workers from coverage under key labor laws." In addition, "the authorized importation of foreign workers for agricultural work (H2A program),⁷⁹ by adding workers to the pool of available labor, has helped keep wages for agricultural workers, and thus labor costs for agricultural producers, below what they would have been without such interventions."⁸⁰

This creates an atmosphere where farmworkers can be subject to unsafe working conditions, substandard living conditions, and lack of worker protection and safety nets available to most U.S. wage laborers. Because large farm operators who hire farmworkers are exempt from some national labor laws, their "economies of scale" are deceivingly greater than they appear and "competitiveness" is supported by government-sanctioned access to low-wage labor. The benefits received by large farm operators come at the expense of the farmworker and small farmer who cannot compete with large farms because they have access to cheap labor.

Small farm operators cannot pay themselves a middle class income for their own labor and compete with farms that minimize labor costs by paying farmworkers less than a living wage. Ultimately, small farmers will earn fair incomes only if farmworkers on large farms are paid fair incomes.

It is critical to recognize the basic human rights of all agricultural workers (including small farm operators personally engaged in agricultural production, as well as farmworkers) to be treated with respect and be able to earn a decent income to support family members and provide for decent housing, living conditions, education, health care, and continuing income for the elderly and disabled.

Farmworker protection

The need for concern surrounding the treatment of farmworkers is well documented and analyzed. Many of the recommendations outlined below resemble recommendations made by the Commission on Agricultural Workers in its November 1992 report to Congress.⁸¹ The Civil Rights Action Team articulated six recommendations for USDA to act on to improve the working

 $^{^{79}}$ H2A refers to the existing temporary foreign worker program that allows the temporary admission of foreign workers to fill farm labor shortages in the U.S.

Report of the Commission on Agricultural Workers. November, 1992. U.S. GPO: 1993 O-332-456:QL 3. The
 Commission report was authorized by Section 304 of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. p. 36.
 Ibid. p.xix-xxxi.

conditions of farmworkers. Now, it is important for USDA, under the leadership of the Secretary of Agriculture, to work with other relevant Federal agencies to take action on these and previous recommendations.

There is a lack of a common policy on farmworker protection laws from those government agencies charged with protecting farmworkers. This void has hampered the ability of the regulatory agencies to develop adequate farmworker protection laws and to effectively implement and enforce the laws. Historically, these agencies have not involved farmworkers in the process of developing, implementing, and enforcing the laws. A concerted effort from all government agencies involved, dealing directly with the farmworker community, needs to occur in order to address the issues of respect and dignity for this community.

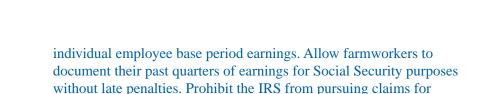
Recommendation 8.1

The Secretary of Agriculture should implement the Civil Rights Action Team Report (CRAT) Recommendation No. 60: "to establish an initiative to address the needs of farmworkers that could be addressed through USDA programs." While various ideas and plans have been discussed, action on this initiative has yet to occur. Action should be taken on this initiative as soon as possible. The initiative should include the following components:

- a) The Secretary of Agriculture should request authority from the President to establish an interdepartmental task force, with USDA as the lead agency, to address laws, regulations, and enforcement of regulations affecting farmworkers. The task force should consist of, but not be limited to: USDA, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and Immigration and Naturalization Service. It is recommended that the task force address, but not be limited to, the following issues:
 - elimination of employer exemptions for agribusinesses and large farm operators. Large farm operators need to be held accountable for paying a decent wage, overtime, compensation insurance, 82 compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations, and other labor laws.
 - repeal of the H2A foreign guest agricultural worker program.
 - development of specific OSHA standards to protect the health and safety of agricultural workers.
 - inclusion of agricultural workers in the unemployment insurance compensation laws.⁸³
 - inclusion of all agricultural employment in the computations of

⁸² Ibid. p. xxviii.

⁸³ Ibid. p. xxviii.



report wages or pay taxes prior to the most recent 3-year period.

- provide assistance to small farm operators to comply with minimum labor standards. Continue exemptions for small farm operators with fewer than four employees. All Federal Insurance Compensation Act (FICA) earnings and taxes should be the direct responsibility of the farm operator.

unpaid taxes against farmworkers when agricultural employers fail to

- collaboration among USDA, EPA, and Labor to protect the health and safety of farmworkers, particularly as it relates to the issue of pesticides.
- inclusion of farmworkers under protections afforded workers by the National Labor Relations Board.

As the task force addresses the above issues, they should give attention to how small farms will be affected.

- **b)** A Farmworker Coordinator position should be created within the new USDA Office of Outreach. Candidates for the USDA Farm Worker Coordinator position should be solicited from community-based farmworker organizations. The Coordinator should immediately begin arranging regularly scheduled listening sessions between USDA, the interdepartmental task force, and farmworkers.
- c) Satellite or mobile offices should be established in communities where high populations of farmworkers reside in order to reach farmworkers with limited transportation access. The offices should be jointly staffed and funded by the Federal agencies involved in the interdepartmental task force. Staff should be bilingual and have farmworker experience. Culturally appropriate educational and technical assistance publications in the language of the farmworkers should be made available on issues such as pesticide safety and health care services.
- d) The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service and the Rural Business-Cooperative Service staff, along with the Farmworker Coordinator and farmworker organizations, should conduct a feasibility study to research and design "farmworker harvesting" cooperatives. Such a cooperative would be designed to match the job skills of agricultural workers with employers as an alternative to the system of farm labor contractors. The cooperative would serve the functions of recruitment, employment, and transportation of farmworkers. The cooperative could also provide job training programs for individuals interested in learning skilled agricultural techniques.

e) USDA, either through its own competitive grants program or in collaboration with other Federal agencies, should conduct research to investigate the impact of pesticides on farmworkers and mitigation of those impacts. Farmworkers have historically been neglected in past studies, as evidenced by the recent collaboration between the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences' (NIEHS) \$15 million, 10-year epidemiological study on farm family health. This important study excluded Hispanic farmworkers, who make up 70 percent of seasonal and 91 percent of the migrant agricultural labor force. In addition, researchers should collaborate with and provide financial support for community-based research by people directly affected by pesticides, such as small farmers and farmworkers. Resources are needed to encourage collaboration in order for the land-grant universities and colleges to work more closely with community-based farmworker organizations on issues related to farmworkers and pesticides. The Fund for Rural America should strongly consider issues relating to farmworkers and proposals submitted by farmworker organizations that directly work with this underserved USDA constituency.

Recommendation 8.2

The Commission endorses CRAT recommendations 61, 62, 63, and 64 and suggests continued progress toward implementation of the recommendations:

CRAT Recommendation No. 61: "Enforce the requirement that those who use "restrictive use pesticides" keep records of the application of their products." Top priority should be given to farms that employ farmworkers.

CRAT Recommendation No. 62: "Immediately provide pesticide information to health care providers treating pesticide-related illnesses." Congress should appropriate the \$3.5 million requested by CSREES for updating and maintaining the Extension Toxicology Network database. The national computerized pesticide recordkeeping network on restricted use pesticides should be accessible to all health care professionals treating pesticide-related illnesses. Training should be provided for community health care providers in the diagnosis, treatment, and proper reporting of pesticide and other work-related illnesses in communities with high farm worker populations. This training should be conducted in collaboration with farmworker organizations that are familiar with pesticide practices and the accompanying symptoms exhibited from pesticide exposure. This combination of information and training will ensure that quality medical care is being provided to farmworkers as well as small farm operators.

CRAT Recommendation No. 63: "Require USDA to use this information to prepare comprehensive annual pesticide use reports, as mandated in the 1990 and 1996 farm legislation." Currently, it is extremely difficult to get an accurate account of pesticides used in States other than California. This mandate was included in both the 1990 and 1996 farm bills and needs to be implemented now. Congress should appropriate the \$2 million increase

The land is a symbol of family welfare and safety, of family status in the community and the world, and is a sacred trust for their ancestors, other family members, future descendants and God, and a sense of family pride. These values in human terms are what contribute to the social fabric of our communities.

— Mary Ellen McKay, New Mexico

Recommendation 8.3

in the NASS budget with the purpose of preparing the annual pesticide use reports and also to enhance future pesticide use surveys. The increased appropriation should be used to expand the survey to include crops that are more labor intensive.

CRAT Recommendation No. 64: "Enforce the Environmental Justice Executive Order at USDA." The Environmental Justice Executive Order requires that "each agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States and its territories and possessions, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands."84

Farm-related stress

Underlying much of the testimony received by the Commission were signs of emotional and physical stress due to the uncertainties and high risk associated with farming. Family farms, like other family businesses, put family relationships among spouses, children, parents, and grandparents in the context of the day-to-day operation of the farm. Crop failures and low prices can have significant impacts on the emotional well-being of farm families as well as on farm families within the context of rural communities.

USDA and land-grant university researchers should look to rural sociologists and specialists in the behavioral sciences to understand the social impacts resulting from a rapidly evolving farm policy and changing rural society. Research should examine the social, psychological, and emotional issues relating to farm operations. This research should be used to design intervention programs by USDA, Extension, and other groups to provide personal counseling, family counseling, stress management, lifestyle assessment and change, and farm management. In addition, researchers should develop a set of indicators to assess community-level social stress in order to monitor and improve the conditions of rural communities. This research should be conducted as a collaboration between land-grant university researchers and community-based organizations.

In another area of concern, the Commission encourages the Secretary to give consideration to recommendations regarding the need to support farmers with disabilities. They were not received in time for full review by the Commission. The National Easter Seal Society has suggested that USDA expand the AgrAbility Program and establish a Center on Disability and Agriculture.

⁸⁴ Executive Order of President Clinton. Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. Issued February 11, 1994.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Washington, DC DR 1043-43 July 9, 1997

Natural Resources Conservation Service

1 PURPOSE

- a This regulation establishes the National Commission on Small Farms (Commission). The purpose of the Commission is to gather and analyze information regarding small U.S. farms and ranches and recommend to the Secretary of Agriculture a national strategy to ensure their continued viability, including specific measures the public, nonprofit and private sectors can take to enhance the economic livelihood of small farms.
- b The Commission is in the public interest and within the duties and responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture (USDA). Establishment of the Commission also implements the recommendation of the USDA Civil Rights Action Report to develop a national policy on small farms.

2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTION

- a This regulation will expire two years from the date of filing.
- b Unless renewed, the Commission will terminate two years from the date of filing.

3 OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

- a The Commission may have as many as 30 members, one of who will serve as chair and two who will serve as vice-chairs. Members will represent small farms and ranches, finance, commerce, rural communities, nonprofit organizations, academia, state and local governments, Native Americans, farmworkers, and the diverse groups USDA programs serve, and other interests as the Secretary determines. USDA will follow equal opportunity practices in making appointments to the Commission. Membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.
- b The Secretary of Agriculture shall make all appointments to the Commission and the members will serve at the Secretary's discretion.
- c The Commission may establish subcommittees as it determines necessary subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the approval of the Chair or the Chair's designee.

4 EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS

The Commission will gather and evaluate information, studies, and data pertinent to small farms and ranches, including limited-resource farmers. This evaluation and analysis should include:

(1) USDA and other studies, information and data, such as transcripts of

- public hearings for the Civil Rights Action Team, the Rural Summit, the Civil Rights Action Report, and the reports of the USDA Sustainable Agriculture Working Group and the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Concentration:
- (2) Current USDA programs that serve small farms and ranches and the effectiveness of those programs, including but not limited to farm loans, rural development loans and grants, research, extension, and education programs, outreach and technical assistance, natural resource conservation, private forestry, risk management, marketing, fair trade practices, trade and export promotion, farm labor, and mediation;
- (3) Other Federal, state, and private sector programs and policies that serve small farms and ranches and the effectiveness of those programs;
- (4) The needs of individuals and families starting and operating small farms and ranches, including but not limited to credit, agricultural production and diversification, specialty crops, private forestry, marketing, risk management, research, education, extension, mediation and alternative dispute resolution, natural resource conservation, outreach, and technical assistance;
- (5) The effectiveness of different types of farm operations and production systems in ensuring the viability of small farms and ranches, including, but not limited to, sustainable agriculture, diversified and integrated operations, specialty and niche crops, direct marketing, alternative uses of agricultural products, community supported agriculture, and cooperative or coordinated production, processing, and marketing systems, including locally-owned, value-added cooperatives, as well as barriers to and ways in which to promote the adoption of the most effective and efficient operations and production practices by small farm and ranch operators;
- (6) Availability and accessibility of credit and other financing options;
- (7) Ways to assist beginning farmers and ranchers as well as to assist farmworkers including facilitating the transition from farmworker to farm or rancher owner or operator;
- (8) Relationships among USDA programs, estate planning, and other factors influencing land ownership and the conversion of productive farm land to non-farm uses;
- (9) The effects, if any, of USDA's organizational and management structure on the viability of small farms and ranches;
- (10) Agricultural market, structural, and organizational trends as they relate to small farms;
- (11) The role of USDA, if any, in facilitating the fair and effective operation of small farms and ranches in vertically integrated agricultural systems;
- (12) The interdependence of small farms and ranches and rural economies and communities; and
- (13) The social, cultural, and environmental contributions of small farms.

5 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the evaluation and analysis described in Section 4 and the public hearings described in Section 8, the Commission shall make findings and shall recommend a national strategy to ensure the continued viability of small farms and ranches in U.S. agriculture. The findings and strategy shall address the issues analyzed by the Committee under Section 4, including, but not limited to:

- (1) Ways to make existing USDA or other Federal, state, private or non-profit programs, policies and practices more effective at meeting the needs of and practices more effective at meeting the needs of and provide a stronger safety net for small farms and ranches;
- (2) New USDA or other Federal, state, private, or non-profit programs, policies, and practices, that would benefit small farms and ranches and provide a stronger safety net for small farms and ranches;
- (3) The types of production systems and practices noted in number (5) of Section 4 that are likely to be the most effective for small farms and ranches and ways in which to improve and facilitate the adoption by small farms and ranches of such systems and practices;
- (4) Ways to assist beginning farmers, farmworkers, including addressing minorities, women, and persons with disabilities, to become farm owners or operators; and
- (5) The role of USDA in assisting small farms and ranches in vertically integrated agricultural systems, such as producer education about contract production or regulatory action to ensure fair contracts and practices, as well as any additional steps USDA should take to address issues of agricultural concentration.

6 HEARINGS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Commission will hold public forums and hearings as specified in Section 8 and may hold additional forums and hearings and solicit public comment as necessary and appropriate within budgetary constraints.

7 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

- a Commission members shall serve without pay and without reimbursement of travel or per diem costs, except reimbursement of travel and per diem costs shall be made to a Commission member who requests and otherwise would be unable to serve without such reimbursement.
- b Annual operating costs are estimated to be \$155,000 including .33 staff year support for fiscal year 1997, and \$35,000 including .20 staff years for fiscal year 1998.

8 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

- a The Commission will meet as necessary to perform its functions as determined by the chair. The Commission will hold at least three public hearings, which may be in conjunction with working sessions of the Commission.
- b The designated Federal official shall be responsible for the prior approval of the agenda for all full Commission meetings and notification of Commission meetings and agendas in the Federal Register.

9 REPORTS/SUPPORT

- a The Commission shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture by September 30, 1997.
- b Funding and support for the Commission will be provided by the Natural Resources and Conservation Service.

Appendix 2 Acronyms / Abbreviations

AFPA Agricultural Fair Practices Act AMS Agricultural Marketing Service

APHIS Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

ARS Agricultural Research Service

ATTRA Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas

B&I Business and Industry
CRAT Civil Rights Action Team

CRIT Civil Rights Implementation Team

CSREES Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

EQIP Environmental Quality Incentive Program

ERS Economic Research Service FAC Food and Agriculture Council

FAIR Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act

FAS Foreign Agricultural Service

FCS Farm Credit System

FFAS Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service
FICA Federal Insurance Compensation Act
FmHA Farmers Home Administration
FMNP Farmers Market Nutrition Program

FNS Food and Nutrition Service

FS Forest Service

FSA Farm Service Agency

FSMIP Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program

GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GIPSA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

IRP Intermediary Relending Program

IRS Internal Revenue Service

MRP Marketing and Regulatory Programs
NAFTA North American Free Trade Agreement
NASS National Agricultural Statistics Service

NCI National Cancer Institute

NIEHS National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service NRE Natural Resources and Environment OBPA Office of Budget and Program Analysis

OGC Office of the General Counsel

OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration PACA Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act

PCSD President's Commission on Sustainable Development

RBEG Rural Business Enterprise Grant
RBS Rural Business-Cooperative Service
RC&D Resource Conservation and Development

RD Rural Development

REE Research, Education and Economics

RMA Risk Management Agency

SARE Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

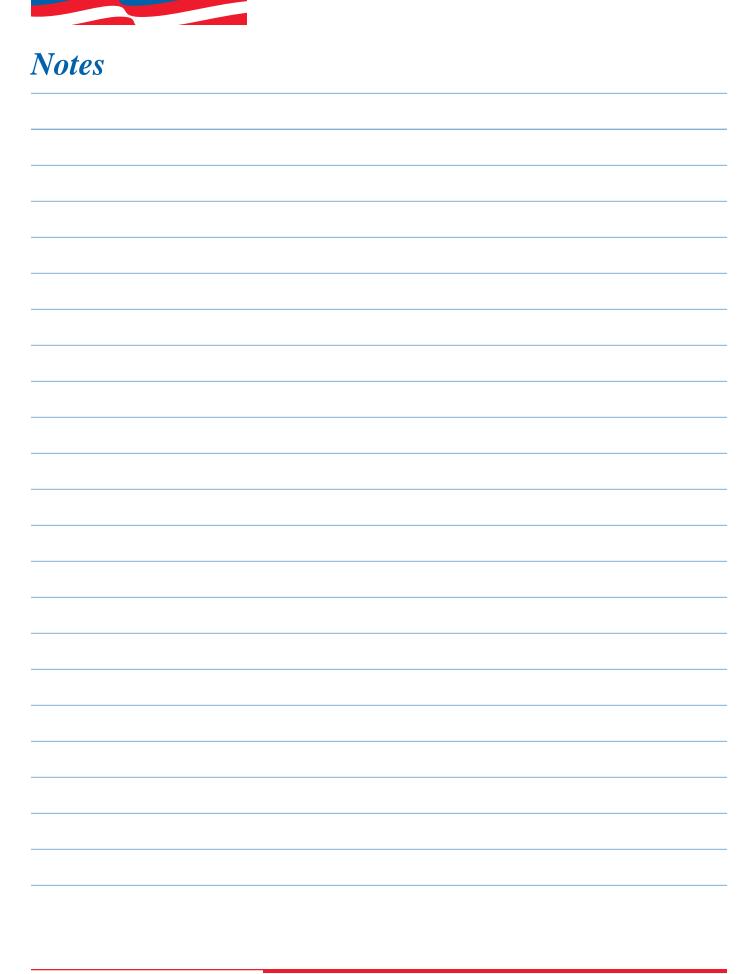
WIC Women, Infants and Children

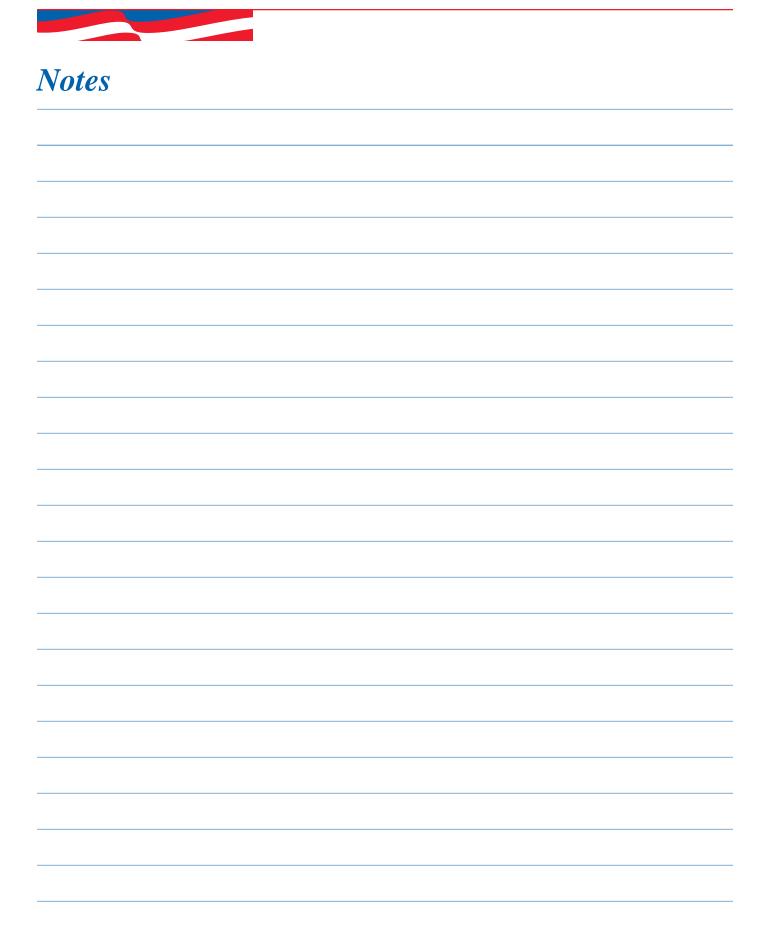
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4.1	Rural Business – Cooperative	HCDA OCC CO / 1
4.5	Service	USDA Office of Outreach
4.7	1.32	2.9
5.8	3.16	4.2
5.13	3.19	4.5
6.1	5.8	4.16
6.2	5.11	4.18
6.3	6.1	6.1
6.11	6.4	6.3
6.15	8.1	6.4
		8.1
Organic Farming	Rural Development	
1.2	1.8	Value-added market develop-
6.3	1.9	ment
7.10	1.10	1.18
	1.32c	1.19
Outreach and Education	1.32e	3.17
2.9	3.17	3.18
3.21	3.18	3.19
4.1	3.19	3.21
4.2	3.21	3.25
4.3	4.4	3.27
4.5	7.6	4.10
4.6	,,,	
4.7	Rural Housing Service (RHS)	
4.9	7.12	
4.10	, . 1 2	
4.11	Statistics	
4.14	3.29	
4.16	3.47	
4.19		
7.3		





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